

THE LOGGER'S BARK**Radio Club of Tacoma, Inc.****P.O. Box 11188****Tacoma, WA 98411**

December 2005 EVENTS

Board Meeting, Tuesday December 6th 7:30 p.m. Clubhouse - All members welcome

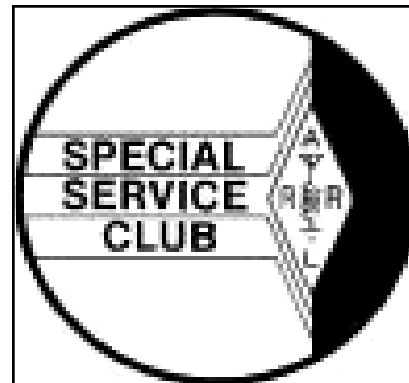
License Testing - Tuesday, December 13th 2005. 7 PM, Clubhouse

Christmas- December 25th: Hope Santa brings you a nice gift!

BARK deadline Friday December 23rd 2005- PLEASE get articles, columns, etc. in by that time!

- Support OUR club - Attend meetings, volunteer, Elmer.
- Check in to the 2-meter Net every Tuesday night at 7:30, on 147.28. Hear additional information on programs and other events.
- Informal 2-meter SSB net every Tuesday on 144.275 MHz USB, after the formal repeater net on 147.280 feel free to drop in.
- Check in on the 10 Meter Net every Sunday evening, 8 PM, on 28.375 MHz USB

PRESIDENT, MICK PIER, KK7QS, kk7qs@comcast.net, 253-891-6950
V PRES, JILL PALMER, K7JIL, hamtalker2@msn.com 253-539-7772
SEC., Larry Watson, KD7VOM, rwatson@chirpmail.net
TREAS., PAT WINGERTER KD7TRC pwingert@harbornet.com 253-274-8657

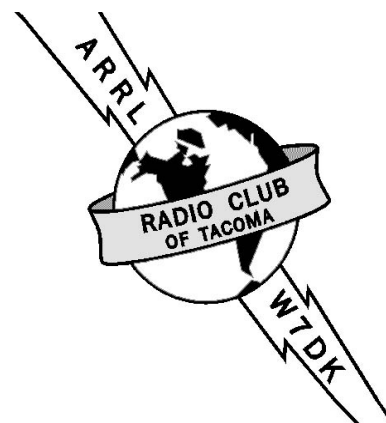


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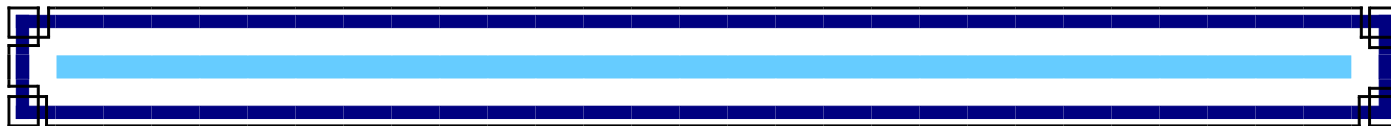
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PUBLISHER W7DK PRESS AC7WW 253-475-5854



CLUB MEETINGS: 7:30 PM 2nd & 4th Wednesdays of each month at the Pierce County Library Administration Building, 3005 - 112th Street East, Tacoma, WA



147.38 / .98 MHz (PL 103.5)

The Radio Club of Tacoma is a non profit organization as defined by law, and all proceeds will be used exclusively for charitable and educational purposes.

The Logger's Bark

RADIO CLUB of TACOMA

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Special points of interest:

- December contests on page 14
- Elmer board page 6
- Rubber Duckies run amukie on page 7
- New Stuff on every page!

From The Prez



From The Prez

I like to start out with a thank you to one of the clubs most valued members. Jerry Seligman, W7BUN is one of the

clubs longest standing life members. As most of us know, Jerry is in the hospital, and is expected to have to spend some time there. He has gone through some surgery and is expected to be in there for some time. He has missed Thanksgiving with his family and may even miss Christmas. Jerry has dedicated most of his life to ham radio and the radio club. Jerry has helped countless hams advance their operating privileges by providing classes to upgrade licenses. I took three of Jerry's upgrade classes myself. Without Jerry's help and dedication to hams, I would still be a tech. Thanks to Jerry I am an extra class operator. Many of us owe our operating privileges to Jerry. Right now Jerry needs to know that all his dedication and efforts are truly appreciated. If you would like to give Jerry a call or maybe visit him you can get the

current information on his condition and contact information by getting a hold of Jill, K7JIL. Jill has been keeping up to date on Jerry's condition, and would be happy to help get you in touch with him. Please help us show Jerry he is truly appreciated and missed. Jerry's wife and family could use a little support too. It would be nice to know that the people he dedicated most of his time to, truly did appreciate it. Let's see to it they don't have to go through this alone.

Once again it is the time of year to stop and look back at all the things everyone has done for the club. It is time for our annual Awards / Christmas banquet. This year it is going to be on Saturday December 12th. It is at the TACID Building again. This place has worked out well for the past several years, and there is no reason to change. We will have recognition awards for those who have helped, food for all, and lots of good fellowship. And those members that have been buying tickets all year will have a chance to win a \$300.00 gift certificate from HRO. Rich, N7ANF has spent a lot of time preparing the details of this event, and would like to see you there. Come and show him his efforts are also appreciated. I hope everyone has a wonderful holiday. See you next year.73 de KK7QS.

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING**MINUTES****November 9, 2005**

The 9 November 2005 Monthly Membership meeting was held at the Pierce County Library Administration Building. . President Mick Pier-KK7QS called the meeting to order at 19:30 PM.

Officers and board members present were:		Present	Absent
President:	Mick Pier-KK7QS,	X	
Vice President:	Jill Palmer -K7JIL,	X	
Secretary:	Larry Watson-KD4VOM,	X	
Treasurer:	Pat Wingerter-KD7TRC,	X	
Board Member:	Frank Palmer-AC7JY,	X	
Board Member	William Jonez-AB7WJ		
Board Member	Gary McAdams-W7GX	X	
Board Member	Lynn Neece-K7OKS		
Board Member	Roddney Saucedo-WV7O	X	

The sign in sheet with the names of the 47 members and guests is attached.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Was led by President Mick Pier

INTRODUCTIONS:

Mick Pier welcomed our guests and self introductions were made

ILLNESS OR SILENT KEY

It was reported that Don Perry is out of the hospital, and Jerry Seligman is expected to remain in the hospital at Madigan for another week.

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

Correspondence was mostly ballots and a few flyers

TREASURER'S REPORT:

The treasurer's report is available for review

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Membership Packet Presentations: President Mick Pier and Jill Palmer had several membership packets for presentation.

ARRL Membership: Pat Wingerter – KD7TRC Reminded the membership that the Club is able to retain a portion of their membership in the ARRL. For new members that currently amounts to \$15, and for renewals \$2 per person. ARRL membership includes your subscription to QST, and supports ARRL's activities on behalf of Amateur Radio; including representing Hams in Washington DC. If you receive a renewal notice from the ARRL, please arrange to have Pat process and submit it so we can realize the financial benefit. To maintain our status as an ARRL Special Service Club, we must also maintain over 51% of our membership as ARRL members.

VE Testing: John Clarke AC7WW: John reported that 16 elements were administered to 13 candidates on Tuesday the 8th. 14 Elements were passed, 2 were not. As a result we have seven new Technician Class, two General Class and one Amateur Extra Class licensees. Of special interest was Peter Davenport who qualified as Technician at age 11, and Harry Adams, who qualified for General, passing the CW Code, Technician and General Exams at age 81. Bob KD7DGO and John KD7OVH passed element three and are working on their code requirement. William KE7FCY passed element three and upgraded to General. John especially thanked the Volunteer Examiners.

Christmas Dinner: Rich - N7ANF Reminded us of the upcoming annual Radio Club of Tacoma Christmas Dinner and Awards. The Christmas party will be at the TACID building located at 19th and Mildred. 10 December, starting at 5:30 and serving at 6. Roger Holmes is donating two hams and a turkey. Rich asked for help in cooking the hams and turkey as well as needing someone to create the dressing. Bring what you like, it always turns out ok. This is also our annual Awards and Recognition night. Jill- K7JIL announced that two "duct tape" wallets were going to be presented with some cash as part of the awards.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Election Committee: John Clarke – AC7WW The election committee counted the RTC election ballots during meeting and announced the following results:

251 ballots were mailed to members

107 ballots were returned for counting

There were a handful of write in ballots for VP and Board positions

The Nominated Election slate were elected by 100 ballots each

The new officers who will officially assume duties on 1 January 2006 are:

Vice President: Jill Palmer K7JIL (Incumbent)

Secretary; Richard (Larry) Watson KD4VOM (currently serving)

Board Position Peter Baker AD7EU

Board Position Larry Alvar KD7TQW

Board Position 5 Gary McAdams WG7X

Doc Spike Inspirational Award: Frank Palmer, AC7JY - Frank has been asked to chair the Doc Spike Inspirational award and is actively soliciting nominations. The Club Standing Rules establishes the criteria as follows: *"An award will be made annually, in the memory of the Club's founder, to the Club Member(s) who best inspires the Club members in furthering the Club's educational and scientific purpose."* Time is short as the award will be presented at the annual Christmas Dinner and Awards night.

PROGRAM:

Nick Winter - K7MO: Tonight's Program consisted of an extensive survey of club members' present amateur radios activities and interests together with a solicitation of ideas for club meeting programs. Nick plans to use this data to develop future programs.

Discussion Topics:

Armand, KA5BBG announced that the Salmon are running near his new place and invited anyone interested in some good fishing to come down. There was also a warning for folks who do their own ammunition reloading not to overload. There was a very serious injury accident at a range recently.

Red Cross Communications: Roger Holme KE7EMV Roger has recently joined the Mt Rainer Chapter of the American Red Cross and announced that the Chapter is planning to interview candidates on 19 November. Nick Ehli pointed out that Gary Kohtala, K7EK (and a club member) is the key point of contact for the Rainer Red Cross Chapter emergency communications and should be contacted if interested in this service project.

Door Prize

Steve Blacksteen - KD7UBE won a coupon for a Hot Press baseball hat.

The meeting was adjourned at 20:52 hours

QSL Card of the Month

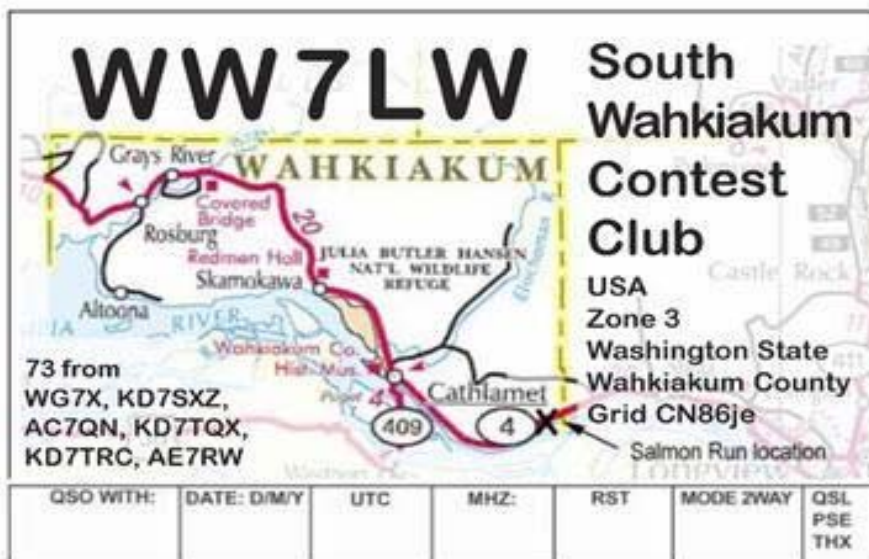
Submitted by: WG7X

On the Bands!

Well folks, not too much has been heard at radio WG7X, mainly because I've been traveling around the states. One of these days, I will have try to invest in a small travel radio of some sort.

Last week-end, was the ARRL Sweepstakes. Hopefully some of the membership got a chance to try their hand at working all the sections for a clean sweep. BTW, this is also a nice way to get all the states you need for the ARRL WAS award!

By the time this issue hits the stands, the CQWW CW test will also be history.



CQWW is like Sweeps in that you can get your DXCC done in a week-end if conditions are good.

So, lets get on the bands and make some noise, have some fun!

73 Gary WG7X

Elmer Board

Do you need help with some area in ham radio? Here is a place to start... First is the listing of areas of support, followed by a list of members' areas of interest.

1. Technical questions, Classes
2. Help with Code
3. License Examinations
4. Antenna and Station planning
5. Antenna and Tower erection
6. Buying new or used equipment
7. Equipment repair
8. Understanding and operating your equipment
9. DX and Contests
10. Club and ARRL activities

11. Using test equipment

12. IRLP

Name/Call Sign /Phone Number/ Help with topic

Jerry, W7BUN 253-845-7652: 1, 4, 6, 9, 10

Alan, KB7SVU 253-840-4947: 4, 5, 10

Frank, N7UO 253-752-8520 : 2, 3

Angela, KC7EQ 253-589-4071: 2

Mick, KK7QS 253-891-6950 : 12

Gary WG7X 253-984-0868: 1,4,5,6,8,9,10,11

If you are willing to share your time and knowledge with "newbees" and others, let us know and get on the Elmer Board!

Schedule of Events

- Tuesdays December 6th, 13th, 20th & 27th Club Repeater net 147.280
- SSB Net, same dates as above on 144.275 USB after SSB net.
- Board Meeting Tuesday December 6th @ 7:30 PM at RCT club house.
- General meetings on 2nd & 4th Wednesdays that's the 14th & 28th.
- Whiskey Group meets twice daily 0700 on 3948 kHz & 2100 on 3957 kHz.
- Christmas Party Dec. 10th at TACID Bldg. @ TCC campus 6-10 pm

December 2005

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

WHAT DO YOU DO WITH A RUBBER DUCKY?

Hi everyone!

December again, with Christmas just three weeks away when you read this. The RCT Christmas Party is on Sat evening the 10th of December at the TACID building (please see 'Ducky' Nov. 05). Or call me at: (253) 474-8883. We're getting a lot of help as I'm writing this late mid-Nov. Thank you all for pitching in.

Remember if you're planning to come late, come to have a

good time and don't bring anything. If a 'little' late just bring a desert, as we'll all be full. There should be plenty of extra food.

We'll have free door prizes. Then the big year end drawing. (See Jill, K7JIL) See yea there, and we'll leave the light on.

I've done some thinking. (Yes Mike, it didn't hurt) And I'm going to have 'The technical question of the month'. Now these might be



things I know or they could be stuff I don't know.

You guess. So this month is about End effect. If you figure a half wave dipole or a one quarter wave vertical you have to take off 5% for end effect. If you compute it using $300 / \text{Freq. in MHz} / 2$ (for 1/2 wave, or 4 for 1/4 wave) convert to feet or inches, you're still 5% too long. So multiply by 95 %. Now you're just right.

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WHAT DO YOU DO WITH A RUBBER DUCKY?

Continued from Page 6

already figured in for you. Ok so we need it. I can see maybe a little off for the dielectric effect of the insulators on a wire dipole. But 5%? At 75 meters that's 3 feet off each end, wow! Now how about aluminum beams on High Hf, VHF or UHF? There is no insulator. Some have said "well, it's the effect of the air or the surrounding capac-

ity effect of "stuff" in the area". Well, ok but that could vary a lot and our figure is a solid 5%. How about out in space, then would they us 5%. By this time my brain does hurt. This might take someone with higher math skills than I've got. I think I know just the one. (OH NO Mr. Bill) See me some Saturday and we'll kick it around.

I want to give a load of

thanks to Dawn Pier KC7VZM for a job well done.

And editing my stuff these last few years.

I'm looking forward to Gary WG7X's editing ability. Hope your spelling checker is better than mine OM.

So if this doesn't read gud they'll no who to blame.

Enough for now, 73, and all the best from the Duck...Rich...N7ANF

Rides Offered for Radio Club of Tacoma Christmas Party!

Calling All Hams!

We would like to coordinate rides for any of our club members that would like to attend the Christmas Banquet, but need transportation assistance. Please don't let a little thing like transportation to and from the banquet facility keep you from sharing the evening, food, and fun with us. If you need a ride or if you would be able to provide a ride for someone else, please contact...

Rich Manson – N7ANF
(253) 474-8883

or
Rick Rose –
KE7EMW
(253) 581-7673
rick-rose <at>
comcast.net

The W7DK Christmas Party is on Saturday, December 10th, 2005.

Setup begins at 5:30pm and clean-up will be finished by 9:00pm.

The evening will not be a success without YOU!

Calling all hams that will need a ride to the Christmas Party!

Rich and Rick want YOU!

Thanksgiving Turkey!?!?

Ducking into confession with a turkey in his arms, Brian said, "Forgive me, Father, for I have sinned. I stole this turkey to feed my family. Would you take it and settle my guilt?"

"Certainly not," said the Priest. "As penance, you must return it to the one from whom you stole it."

"I tried," Brian sobbed, "but he refused. Oh, Father, what should I do?"

"If what you say is true, then it is all right for you to keep it for your family."

Thanking the Priest, Brian hurried off.

When confession was over, the Priest returned to his residence. When he walked into the kitchen, he found that someone had stolen his turkey.

VE TEAM REPORT

John Clarke, AC7WW

Sixteen Elements were administered to thirteen candidates. Fourteen elements were successfully passed, two were not passed.

Added to the Amateur Radio Community were seven new Technicians, two new Generals and one Amateur Extra.

Six students of the November 5th and 6th Technician Class conducted by Steve, AD7AB attended the Test Session. Five of the six students were able

to pass the examinations. Peter, age 11 passed element two and qualified for Technician. Harry, age 81 qualified for General by taking and passing the code, Technician and General Exams.

Bob KD7DGO and John KD7OVH passed element three and are studying code.

William, KE7FCY passed element three and upgraded to General.

A thanks goes out to the Volunteer Ex-

aminers who were at the session.



A request for ARES/RACES support from Pat Kern K7IBC

As you may or may not know, I am Zone manager for Pierce County ARES/RACES for the areas of Pierce County bordered by SR16 on the north, I-5 on the east, and Thurston County line on the south. My zone also takes in Anderson and McNeil Islands. At this point there are only 2 active members in the Lakewood/U.P. area. I'm trying to grow this, but I may need some help. I was hoping to find out if the word can be spread through the RCT group that we are looking for active hams looking to help their local community with communication support.

I have a net that operates every Tuesday evening at 1830 Local on 146.460 FM simplex. The general ARES/RACES/TAC net is on the 145.370+RPT at 1900 Local also on Tuesday evening.

Thanks a lot, -Pat

--

Patrick Kern

Ed note:

Pat is looking primarily for Amateur operators in the Lakewood/ University Place areas, but I am sure that anyone can check into the nets at the times indicated. Please note that the timing might be a bit tight because all of these nets are scheduled prior to the RCT net ALSO on Tuesdays at 1930 local. Note that 1830 hrs = 6:30 PM 1900 hrs = 7:00 PM and of course 1930 hrs = 7:30 PM!

Radio Club of Tacoma

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TACOMA, WA
98411

Phone: 253-749-2040

E-mail:

EDITOR:: Use web site address or, thebark@comcast.net

PRESIDENT:: Use Web site address

All other officers: Use web site address.

CONTINUOUSLY ACTIVE SINCE 1916.

We're on the WEB: WWW.W7DK.ORG

PINOCHLE & POTLUCK

See you at the clubhouse
Saturday , December 3rd
7:30P.M.

For more info call:
253-759-4898

Jack, WA7ENB & Marilyn
Moore



Let's Rib Those

Folks from Eastern Washington...

A Lake Chelan boy and his father were in a mall. They were amazed by almost everything they saw, but especially by two shiny, silver walls that could move apart and then slide back together again.

The boy asked, "What is this Father?"

The father, never having seen an elevator responded, "Son, I have never seen anything like this in my life, I don't know what it is." While the boy and his father were watching with amazement, an old lady in a wheel chair moved up to

the two moving walls and pressed a button. The walls opened and the lady rolled between them into a small room. The walls closed and the boy and his father watched the small circular numbers above the walls light up sequentially.

They continued to watch until it reached the last number and then the numbers began to light in the reverse order. Finally the walls opened up again and a gorgeous 24-year-old blonde stepped out. The father said quietly to his son...

"Go get your mother."

YOUR ATTENTION PLEASE!

IT IS MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL TIME!

PLEASE USE THE FORM THAT IS

ATTACHED TO THIS ISSUE OF THE

"BARK" OR: THEY CAN BE FOUND AT:

[HTTP://WWW.W7DK.ORG](http://WWW.W7DK.ORG)

MEMBERSHIP FORMS CAN BE

PRINTED OUT AND MAILED TO:

JILL PALMER

3817 169th ST CT E

TACOMA, WA.

98446-2928

If you know anyone in the club who could use a word of cheer, congratulations or condolences, please contact Jill Palmer, K7JIL, 253-539-7772 or e-mail hamtalker2@msn.com

ARRL SAYS BPL GROUP SHOULD EMBRACE RECENT ARRL PROPOSALS

In a Reply to Opposition filed this week, the ARRL maintains that changes it recently proposed to the FCC's Part 15 BPL rules provide a golden opportunity for the BPL industry and the FCC. The League was responding to a

November 2 United Power Line Council (UPLC) Motion opposing and seeking dismissal of the ARRL's Petition for a Further Notice of Proposed Rule Making, filed last month in the BPL proceeding, WT Docket 04-37.

"As a general observation, it is difficult to understand the rationale for UPLC's knee-jerk response to ARRL's Petition," the League said in its Reply to Opposition. "On its face, the Petition does no more than to state a reasonable basis for a principled accommodation for all concerned with, or about, access BPL. This would include BPL operators."

The ARRL contended that the UPLC "would better serve its members by embracing the ARRL Petition, rather than rejecting it" and said its proposals represent "the last clear chance to prevent substantial interference from BPL deployments."

The League's October Petition suggested that incorporating three elements into the BPL rules the Commission adopted last year would essentially resolve all issues that the ARRL and the Amateur Service have with access BPL:

- * Prohibiting all access BPL systems from using Amateur Radio allocations--except the five channels at 5 MHz, which the current HomePlug system architecture does not notch.

- * Prohibiting access BPL systems from using HF bands on medium-voltage power lines. Measuring signal decay from access BPL systems using a more accurate 20dB/decade extrapolation factor rather than the 40 dB/decade factor the current rules support.

Calling UPLC's opposition to its proposals "short sighted," the League said the UPLC "cannot in good faith" argue that the present BPL rules are in any way sufficient to prevent or mitigate interference to Amateur Radio. "They are not sufficient, as has been demonstrated time and time again in BPL test deployments," the ARRL contended this week.

To punch up that point, the League called "pure sophistry" and "absurd and false" UPLC's claim in its Motion that BPL operators using HF on medium-voltage power lines "have been very effective in mitigating rare instances of interference to Amateur Radio users." In support of that assertion, UPLC cited a July 22, 2004, letter from Bruce Franca, then Deputy Chief of the FCC's Office of Engineering and Technology, to Tom Brown, N4TAB. Franca's letter claimed that Progress Energy's BPL pilot project in the Raleigh, North Carolina, area complied with FCC rules.

Responding to Franca that same day, ARRL CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ, at the time noted the presence of ongoing interference and rebutted Franca's assertions. He specifically cautioned FCC to "not permit its conclusions to be erroneously represented as having given the Progress Energy trials a 'clean bill of health'"--precisely what UPLC is now attempting, he said. A copy of Sumner's letter was attached to this week's League filing.

UPLC failed to mention that interference from the Raleigh system to numerous Amateur Radio operators "persisted and was not resolved until the system was shut down," the League pointed out this week. ARRL General Counsel Chris Imlay, W3KD, thinks it's ironic that UPLC chose that particular piece of FCC correspondence to buttress its case. "Mr Sumner rebutted Franca's letter in the Raleigh situation, and Franca never responded, despite repeated promises to do so," he said. "We are now a year and four months down the road."

In this week's filing, the League said its Petition seeks to create additional rules governing BPL that, with those already on the books, would "be sufficient to allow ARRL to withdraw its pending Petition for Reconsideration" in the proceeding. In addition, the ARRL reiterated its position that certain BPL systems mentioned in the October Petition "present manageable interference potential" that "can be dealt with on a case-by-case basis." Its proposals, the League said, provide the BPL industry and the FCC with the opportunity to create an RF environment that's not substantially degraded for licensed radio services and that permits BPL to develop "without the competitive handicap of fundamental incompatibility with licensed services" and removes any remaining regulatory uncertainty.

The ARRL concluded by urging the Commission to "proceed expeditiously to issue a further Notice of Proposed Rule Making, adopt the proposed rules, and remove the obstacles to a responsible rollout of access BPL that were either created, or not resolved, by the [BPL] Report and Order."

A copy of the ARRL's Reply to Opposition is on the FCC Web site

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FCC COMMISSIONER ABERNATHY OUTA THERE!

FCC Commissioner Kathleen Q. Abernathy has announced that she will exit the Commission December 9. Her tenure already was set to end when the current session of Congress adjourns. Appointed by President George W. Bush to fill an unexpired term, Abernathy, a Republican, has served on the FCC since May 2001 but never was nominated for a full term. In her announcement, Abernathy

lauded the FCC's increasing reliance on competition rather than regulation. "Our largely market-driven approach to advanced services has helped create a vibrant market for new wired and wireless telecommunications products," she said, "and our spectrum reform initiatives have improved our ability to put this scarce resource to its most effective use."

In 2003, the ARRL strongly objected to Abernathy's suggestion that broadband over power line (BPL) technology would contribute to what she described as "broadband Nirvana." Addressing the United Power Line Council's annual conference that year, Abernathy expressed unabashed enthusiasm for BPL and recommended a combination of regulatory restraint and the elimination or substantial modification of existing rules as steps along the "path to Enlightenment."

Continued on page 13

Earlier this month, President Bush nominated Deborah T. Tate of Tennessee, a Republican, to serve out the remainder of the term of former FCC Chairman Michael K. Powell, which expires June 30, 2007. Under current FCC Chairman Kevin J. Martin, a Republican who succeeded Powell, the FCC has been operating with four members ever since, and it could be down to three if Tate is not confirmed by the US Senate before Abernathy's departure.

In addition to her other FCC responsibilities, Abernathy chaired the Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service and participated in the 2002 International Telecommunication Union (ITU) Plenipotentiary Conference and in World Radio communication Conference 2003. She also chaired the 2004 ITU Global Symposium for Regulators. Before her appointment to the FCC, Abernathy was director for government affairs at BroadBand Office Inc. She also previously served as legal advisor to FCC Commissioner Sherrie Marshall and Chairman James Quello.

Martin thanked Abernathy for her "dedicated service" on the FCC and wished her well. "I have enjoyed working with Commissioner Abernathy since we joined the Commission together over four years ago," he said. "She has made valuable contributions to the agency during her tenure, and we have all benefited from her extensive knowledge of the communications industry."

The White House this month also reappointed Commissioner Michael J. Copps, a Democrat, for a new five-year term, starting last July 1. That appointment also is subject to Senate confirmation.

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SOLAR UPDATE FOR ALL YOU DX-TURKEYS OUT THERE

Solar sage Tad "Gobble Gobble!" Cook, K7RA, Seattle, Washington, reports: Geomagnetic indicators, the A and K indices, have remained low. This is good for HF propagation, and, with low sunspot numbers lowering the MUF (maximum usable frequency), perfect for long-range communication on 160 and 80 meters.

Average sunspot numbers in the six days since the last bulletin were 50.3--nearly 30 points above the average reported in the previous report. The daily solar flux went just above 100 on November 17-19, the days when large Sunspot 822 was passing across the center of the visible solar disk and exerting maximum influence.

Solar flux is expected to decline over the next week. Predicted solar flux over the next few days is 95, 90 and 85 for November 23-25, and 80 through the end of the month. Geomagnetic numbers (and disturbances) are expected to remain low. Expect a mid-latitude K index of 3 or less and an A index at 10 or lower until the end of the month, when we may see higher geomagnetic activity around November 30 to December 1.

Because this report is early, the sunspot data that normally appear each week will be included in a separate bulletin Monday, November 28th.

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DECEMBER CONTESTS

ARCI Topband Sprint0000Z-0600Z, Dec 1

ARRL 160-Meter Contest2200Z, Dec 2 to 1600Z, Dec 4

TARA RTTY Melee0000Z-2400Z, Dec 3

Wake-Up! QRP Sprint0400Z-0429Z, Dec 3 and 0430Z-0459Z, Dec 3 and 0500Z-0529Z, Dec 3 and 0530Z-0600Z, Dec 3

ARS Spartan Sprint0200Z-0400Z, Dec 6

EU-PSK-QRP Contest2000Z-2400Z, Dec 9

ARRL 10-Meter Contest0000Z, Dec 10 to 2400Z, Dec 11

NA High Speed Meteor Scatter Winter Rally0000Z, Dec 10 to 0700Z, Dec 18

CQC Great Colorado Snowshoe Run0200Z-0359Z, Dec 11

NAQCC 80m Straight Key/Bug Sprint0130Z-0330Z, Dec 14

Russian 160-Meter Contest2100Z-2300Z, Dec 16

MDXA PSK DeathMatch0000Z, Dec 17 to 2400Z, Dec 18

OK DX RTTY Contest0000Z-2400Z, Dec 17

RAC Winter Contest0000Z-2359Z, Dec 17

Croatian CW Contest1400Z, Dec 17 to 1400Z, Dec 18

Stew Perry Topband Challenge1500Z, Dec 17 to 1500Z, Dec 18

International Naval Contest1600Z, Dec 17 to 1600Z, Dec 18

ARCI Holiday Spirits Homebrew Sprint2000Z-2400Z, Dec 18

RAEM Contest0200Z-0959Z, Dec 25

DARC Christmas Contest0830Z-1059Z, Dec 26

Burrrrrrr... It Was a Cold Cold War

By Rich – KR7W

When I was a kid growing up in Eastern Washington (near the Hanford Project) in the late 50s and early 60s... I had friends (from more affluent families) whose parents had built bomb shelters either in their basements or back yards.

Back in those Cold War days, it was reported that Senator Alexander Wiley, the chair of the Foreign Relations Committee viewed amateur radio operators as a “potential security risk” and called for restrictions on amateur radio operations for “security reasons”. Also, in 1953, Senator Joe McCarthy suggested that Hams had a “tremendous potential for passing out improper information for espionage” over the air waves. I guess that you never know who might be listening.

Ham radio operators dealt with the Cold War (McCarthy-ism) turmoil through cautionary editorials in ham magazines and self policing behaviors.

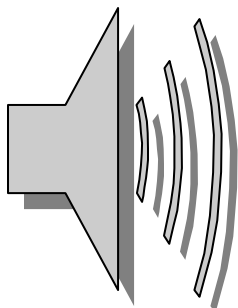
If I remember my history correctly... it was reported that the Japanese found their way to bomb Pearl Harbor by “homing in” on broadcast stations. So, during the Cold War days... in times of war, ham radio stations and most broadcast stations were required to go **off the air**.

Well, you wouldn't want your AM phone (before SSB became popular) transmitter to be the recipient of a guided missile which was using your antenna as a homing device, now would you?



Those Cold War days provided many kinds of “protective devices”. One of those devices was provided to the ham radio community by the Heath Company... the manufacturer of Heathkits. The **CA-1 CONELRAD** (**CON**trol of **EL**ectromagnetic **RAD**iation) **Alarm** kit was designed to shut your ham station down at the “first sign of incoming attack”. So, how’d it work?

The Heath CA-1 was connected to your AC or DC broadcast radio, with AGC (automatic gain control) circuit, that was turned on when your ham station was powered up. As long as the broadcast receiver was receiving it’s tuned in station then AC power was provided to your ham transmitter. If the broadcast station went off of the air (if the event of an attack)... then the CA-1 detected the loss of AGC voltage from the broadcast receiver and the CA-1’s internal 6 amp relay released and your station’s transmitter shut down to avert the missile homing in on your antenna. Your shack would most certainly cool down quickly if those heaters in your AM transmitter went off.

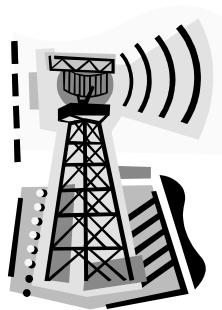


*Check in to the Tuesday evening Net at 7:30p.m. on 147.28
(the W7DK repeater) for the latest news
and announcements from the club!*

10 meter Net Sunday evening 8 p.m. On 28.375

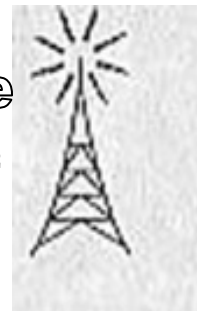
CW net meets on Sunday evening 7 p.m. on 28.150

2-Meter SSB Net every Tuesday after FM net, 144.275



Mini-Swap Meet at the Clubhouse

Last Saturday of each month Mini Swap Meet at the Clubhouse ... 10 a.m. to 2 p.m....There will be food (hot dogs, etc.) ...Bring in your items you want to swap or sell or stop by to see what others bring.



RADIO CLUB OF TACOMA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

__Renewal Name_____ Call_____

(Membership has not lapsed) * See member price below

Reinstatement Name _____ Call _____

(Membership has lapsed for more than 1 year) * See member price below

I would also like to add additional family member/s @\$15 ea. (more than 2 are free)

Names, Calls & License Class if applicable_____

☐ No changes in any of my information this year. ☐ Yes, I have changes in my address, phone #'s or email. (Please make changes below)

Address _____

City/State_____

Zip + 4 _____ Home Phone (____) _____ Wk/Cell (____) _____

Email _____ Please do not publish my ___ phone #'s or ___ email in the roster!

NEW MEMBERS ONLY

One Application per Member Please

Name_____Call_____Class_____Birthday_____

Address _____ City/State _____

Zip+4 _____ Home Phone (_____) _____ Work/Cell phone (_____) _____

Email _____ Are you a member of ARRL? ☐ Yes ☐ No

RCT receives \$15 for each **new member** who joins ARRL through the club. \$2 for each renewal. ARRL form is in new member packet.

Occupation, hobbies, interests or skills

_____ I would like to purchase a Club Badge for \$9.00 each. Please print how you would like your badge to read.

Badge Name _____	Badge Call sign _____
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Applicant's Signature _____

Annual Membership Dues PLEASE CHECK ALL MEMBER CATEGORIES THAT APPLY ☐ **FULL**

Full or Associate Renewals and Reinstatements: \$30

☐ **ASSOCIATE**

Family members at same address: (first 2) \$15

☐ **SENIOR**

Senior Member (65 or older) \$25

☐ **FAMILY**

Full Time Student (up to age 25) \$15

☐ **STUDENT**

Life Membership (20 x the Annual dues) payment plan available

☐ **LIFETIME**

TOTAL PAID: \$ _____

FOR RCT USE ONLY

Dues received \$ _____ Badge fee received \$ _____ Date _____ Receipt # _____